

NNDSS Modernization Initiative Technical Assistance Coordination Team Update

March 13, 2015

Colleagues,

Please find below the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) Modernization Initiative (NMI) Technical Assistance (TA) Coordination Team Update for March 13, 2015. These e-mail updates are a collaboration among the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and will be sent biweekly in an effort to keep reporting jurisdictions and other partners and stakeholders updated on the progress of NMI.

For more information on NMI, please see the NMI FAQs at <http://www.cdc.gov/nmi/faq.html>. If you have questions not answered in the FAQs, please send them to edx@cdc.gov.

Message Mapping Guide Development Updates

- The “Methods for Conveying Unknown or Missing Values in Case Notification Messages” document has received final CDC approval and is expected to be posted on the [Draft MMG Web site](#) in March 2015.
- **Message Mapping Guide (MMG) Status Updates:**
 - **Mumps and Pertussis MMGs ([Stage I—Draft Phase](#)):**
 - The MMG Development Team has revised the expected posting date for the revised Mumps and Pertussis MMGs to April 2015 for a second external review period of approximately 4 weeks.
 - **Congenital Syphilis and STD MMGs ([Stage II—Reconciled Draft Phase](#))**
 - The team delivered the restructured STD MMG, test messages, and test scenarios to the Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning (MVPS) Team in February 2015.
 - The MMG Development Team delivered the restructured Congenital Syphilis MMG to the MVPS Team on 2/13/2015; the test messages and test scenarios were delivered on 3/3/2015.
 - The MMG Development Team will post the STD and Congenital Syphilis MMGs as soon as possible as [Stage III—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#) versions of the MMGs, along with their artifacts.
 - **Generic v2 and Hepatitis MMGs ([Stage III—Pilot Test-ready Draft Phase](#))**
 - The team delivered the restructured Generic v2 and Hepatitis MMGs, test messages, and test scenarios to the MVPS Team in February 2015.
 - The MMG Development Team expects to post updated versions of the Generic v2 and Hepatitis artifacts to the Draft MMG Web site in March 2015.
 - No guides are in [Stage IV—Final MMG Phase](#) at this time.

Message Validation, Processing, and Provisioning System Updates

- The MVPS Team is supporting the documentation and clarification of the MVPS system requirements as follows:
 - On 02/13/2015, the MVPS Team delivered the message processing guide (MPG) and processing requirements to the MVPS developer AgileX. The MVPS Team received feedback from AgileX on 2/25/2015 and has planned clarification sessions with AgileX to resolve any outstanding questions.
 - The purpose of the sessions is to complete the review and clarification of the message restructuring functional requirements documents submitted to AgileX in support of Gen v2, Hepatitis, and STD, including the new Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Specification and to answer any outstanding questions.
 - Once these sessions have concluded, the documents for restructured MMG processing will be considered final for these conditions.
 - On 2/25/2015, the MVPS Team presented and demonstrated a draft of the MVPS Quality Control (QC) Dashboard and User Interface to the CDC PHIN Team and the Data Operations Team (DOT) to update the teams on and discuss the use of the dashboard for onboarding jurisdictions. A follow-up meeting was held on 3/5/2015 to continue the discussion regarding the PHIN Team's and DOT's requirements.
- The MVPS Team continues to support the new MMG message restructuring effort:
 - The MVPS Team continues to work on the message restructuring requirements documents/MPG for Congenital Syphilis and expects to finalize them in March 2015.
 - When the message restructuring is completed, MVPS and the Message Evaluation and Testing Service (METS) tool will be updated to reflect the new message structure and associated processing changes for three disease types (Gen v2, Hepatitis, STD). System functionality in support of validation testing with the jurisdictions is expected to be available in June 2015.

Technical Assistance Updates

- The NMI Technical Assistance (TA) Coordination Team held the "NMI TA Pilot Project Phase II: Orientation for Pilot Jurisdictions" webinar on 2/27/2015.
 - During the webinar, the team provided an update on the status of NMI, including refinements made during the first 6 months of the project; clarified expectations and shared information to help jurisdictions prepare to implement the new case notification messages, including lessons learned from Michigan; and reviewed the revised timeline for NMI for non-National Electronic Disease Surveillance System Base System (NBS) states.
 - Positive feedback about the webinar was received from the jurisdictions who attended.
- NMI was the topic of the 3/4/2015 PHIN Partner Call. On this call, NMI leadership provided an update to all jurisdictions on the status of NMI, the changes made to the HL7 message structure, the work of the NMI TA Coordination Team, and the revised NMI timeline.
- On 3/12/15, the NMI Evaluation Workgroup (CDC, CSTE, APHL) conducted a webinar for pilot jurisdictions on evaluation initiatives for NMI.

- The NMI TA Coordination Team, led by APHL in this effort, continues to conduct conference calls with the initial NMI pilot jurisdictions to reassess their continued interest and readiness to participate in and receive TA between March and June 2015. The team expects to complete the assessments and determine the five jurisdictions that will participate in this phase of NMI TA by 3/13/2015.
- The team, led by APHL in this effort, continues to develop tools, resources, and trainings—such as the MMG implementation template, integration broker mappers, and other technical assistance training materials—to assist jurisdictions both before and during technical assistance, which is expected to start the week of 3/16/2015.
- Reminder about MMG status:
 - MMGs in Stages I, II, and III are considered draft and may be revised until the time they are finalized.
 - Those jurisdictions selected for pilot testing of the test-ready versions (Stage III) of the MMGs should wait until contacted by the NMI TA Team before using the test-ready MMGs, before implementing surveillance information system changes, and before submitting test messages to CDC.
 - All other jurisdictions should not plan to submit data to CDC or implement MMG-based updates to their surveillance information systems until the final MMGs (Stage IV) have been posted to the PHIN website.
- For more information about technical assistance:
 - Please see the NMI FAQs at <http://www.cdc.gov/nmi/faq.html>.
 - For pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions specific to NMI TA, please contact Laura Carlton, APHL, at laura.carlton@aphl.org.
 - For non-pilot jurisdictions: If you have questions or would like to request TA for MMG implementation through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC) Cooperative Agreement, please email edx@cdc.gov.

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